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FEB 09 2023 40

STATE OF ILLIONIS)
) SS
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT)

 Clerk of the
Circuit Court

CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 23-1

**RESUMPTION OF NORMAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

WHEREAS COVID-19 and its variants have required mitigation measures over the past three years, including mass, social distancing and the opportunity for vaccinations;

WHEREAS there has been fluctuation in COVID 19 measures of danger, such as the number of cases, positivity rates, hospitalizations and deaths, which has caused mitigation measures to change over time;

WHEREAS the measures of danger are headed in the right direction and the governor of Illinois, local governments and entities are modifying their rules, there is a need to change mitigation measures again.

THEREFORE: all prior administrative orders imposing restrictions due to COVID-19 are rescinded and normal activity will resume.

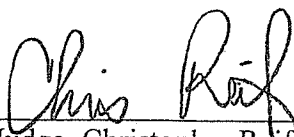
- **Resumption of All Matters.** Courts are no longer limited to hearing only essential activities. Courts may resume all matters and schedule them accordingly.
- **Courtroom Limitations and Reduced Call Size.** Courtrooms are not required to adhere to a strict 6-foot rule for social distancing. Judges have discretion to determine the capacity limit for their courtroom based on the size of the courtroom, the number of persons present, the length of matters, etc. Remote hearings are still available when appropriate and for those judges able to accommodate such hearings.
- **Individual Judge/Courtroom Order.** Attorneys and parties should be aware that individual judges may issue their own guidance on practices in certain courtrooms with the approval of the presiding judge.

To the extent that this Administrative Order conflicts with extant Administrative Orders, local administrative orders or policies, this Administrative Order shall prevail; and

This Administrative Order shall remain in full force and effect until replaced or terminated by a subsequent Administrative Order.

Dated this 9th day of February, 2023.

ENTERED:



Chief Judge, Christopher Reif